

MARYLAND BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALISTS
4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215

April 3, 2024 BOARD MEETING
OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Meeting Held via Google Meet

Board Members Present:

Matthew Cumers, Board Chair, Local Health Department Member
Kevin Barnaba, Private Industry
Tonisha Melvin, Board Secretary, Consumer Member
Naomi Howell, Department of the Environment Member
Sherry Williams, Department of Health
Mia Lowery, Local Government
Bonnie Harbin, At Large
Sarath Seneviratne, At Large (Joined at 10:15 a.m.)

Board Members Absent:

Lewis Brown, Consumer Member

Staff and Visitors:

Rhonda Edwards, Deputy Counsel
James Merrow, Executive Director
Donna Zickefoose, Administrator I
Lillian Reese, Legislative Coordinator
Zakiyyah Holms, MDH

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 A.M. by Matthew Cumers, Board Chair.

AGENDA The Agenda was reviewed. There were no additions or adjustments to the agenda. Kevin Barnaba made a motion to adopt the agenda as submitted. Naomi Howell provided a 2nd to the Motion. Motion passed. 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

ITEM 1 Review of the Prior Meeting Open Session Meeting Minutes

1(a). The February 7, 2024 Open Session Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Mia Lowery made a motion to adopt the Minutes as submitted. Naomi Howell provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained -Tonisha Melvin was absent at the February 7, 2024 meeting.

ITEM 2 Board Chair Report

2(a). Continuing Education Audit and disciplinary actions. James Merrow, Executive Director reviewed the new process. A random percent of licensees will be audited for their continuing education. Jim described the various levels of infractions that can occur for a licensee who did not complete the required continuing education credits. This is a new process and the Board may elect to send a letter of Education to the licensees. There is a scheduled training on April 26, 2024 to all licensees to review all of the regulatory changes. Attendees will receive 1.5 ceu's for their attendance. The meeting will be recorded and posted on the Board's website.

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ITEM 3 Legislative/Regulations Committee

3(a). Update on SB 222 – Passed effective 10/21/24. The Emergency Regulations are effective now. The pending Regulations are still in the process for signature and should be signed in May, 2024 after the Session.

ITEM 4 Executive Director Report

4(a). It has been a difficult process to get the online renewals up and running for this year. The Board is waiting for the Comptroller's Office to sign off. Working on expediting this.

4(b). Statistics from the Licensing Database:

1. Active Seasonal Certificates – 33
2. Active Licensed Environmental Health Specialists - 489
3. Active In-Training Certificates – 135
4. Active Certificate of Eligibility Certificates – 216 (this number is expected to change the Board staff is still working on expired applications)

4(c). Number of Exam passing scores since the prior meeting – 6

4(d). Number of failing scores since the prior meeting – 6

ITEM 5 Credentialing

5(a). Kimberly Maier requested the Board requested the Board extend her In-Training Certificate. Mia Lowery made a motion to extend the In-Training Certificate for a one time 6-month extension. Kevin Barnaba a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

ITEM 6 Work Force Work Group

No report.

ITEM 7 Continuing Education Committee

Bonnie Harbin has approved new Sponsors to be added to the "Approved Sponsor" list posted on the Board's website. James Merrow is looking at the benefits of closing the designated continuing education email address.

ITEM 8 Status of Certificates and Licenses Processed:

8(a). Initial Licenses Issued (7)

1. Luke Barragan (12-8-23 exam)
2. Kristen Geroski (1-19-24 exam)
3. Duranne Lloyd (2-9-24 exam)
4. Katelyn Capozzoli (1-19-24 exam)
5. Francis Coreas (3-6-24 exam)
6. Elizabeth Bridges (11-22-23 exam)
7. Ryan Kuenzel (3-8-24 exam)

8(b). License Reactivation (0)

8(c). Certificates of Eligibility Issued (11)

1. Brittany Nelson
2. Carley Cassera
3. Isabella Davis
4. Marci-Ann Smith

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5. Catherine Sawers
6. Mitchel Jackson
7. Taylar Angle
8. Kola Isola
9. Obsa Megersa
10. Miranda Okere
11. Katherine Lamb

8(d). In-Training Certificates Issued (7)

1. Asia Simms
2. Lakishia James
3. Alexis Phillips
4. Mitchel Jackson
5. Ashley Dennis
6. Logan Hatcher
7. Rachael Silverblatt

8(e). Seasonal/Summer/Youth Camp In-Training Certificates (0)

At 10:14 a.m. Matthew Cumers read the Presiding Officers statement to move into the Closed Session meeting.

Bonnie Harbin made a motion to close the Open Session and move into the Closed Session. Sarath Seneviratne provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. Vote 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained

Meeting adjourned 10:36 a.m.



Matthew Cumers,
Board Chair



James Merrow
Executive Director

Date: June 5, 2024

Date: June 5, 2024